

pose to allot petrol retail outlets in backward areas of Orissa;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) to (e). Retails outlets for diesel/ petrol are opened in different places as per approved Marketing Plans, availability of products etc. There is no separate criteria for allotting retail outlets in backward areas.

[English]

Comprehensive crop Insurance Scheme

2434. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the facilities provided to the farmers under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme and the monitoring agencies at Block and District level to ensure the proper implementation of the Scheme;

(b) whether the farmers of Garhwal region are not covered under the Crop Insurance Scheme;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to cover the farmers of Garhwal region under the Scheme as they are badly affected by vagaries of natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a).

Under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) the crops of loanee farmers growing wheat, paddy, millets, oilseeds and pulses crops are covered. The sum insured is limited to a maximum of Rs. 10,000/- per farmer.

In order to ensure proper implementation of the CCIS at various levels in implementing States, a committee is set up under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary and consists of representatives of the State Government, General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC), Government of India, National Bank for agricultural and Rural Development, Commercial/ cooperative Banks etc. The Committee monitors the implementation of CCIS and also administers the State Crop Insurance Fund. The responsibility of Supervision and monitoring of the crop loans disbursed for insured crops is with the credit disbursing agencies. The loss to the insured crops is assessed on the basis of the yield data furnished to the GIC by the State Government on the basis of the crop cutting experiments conducted at the end of every season.

(b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Under the CCIS states are free to implement the scheme in any area. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has opted not to implement the CCIS in any area including the Garhwal region since 1.4.1990 onwards.

[Translation]

Setting up of More Campuses of G.B. Pant University in U.P.

2435. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the places in hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh where the Govind Ballabh Pant

Agricultural University, Pantnagar has set up its campuses;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up more campuses in Pauri and Chamoli districts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Sir, The G.B. Pant University has a teaching campus at Ranichauri in the Tehri Garwal District.

(b) No such proposal has been received by the Government of India.

(c) Does not arise

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas in Tamil Nadu Coast

2436. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any exploration work is going on to find out oil and gas in Tamil Nadu Coast; and

(b) if so, the details and results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI .S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exploratory Drilling is continuing in the coastal districts of South Arcot,

Nagapattinam Quaid-E-Millath and Ramnad. It is also being pursued by ONGC in the interior districts of Tanjavur and Pudukottai. So far, 9 oil and gas discoveries have been made.

Kerosene Quota to States

2437. SHRI. C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the union Government have raised the Kerosene quota for certain States recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise, during the last nine months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI .S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Meetings of Indo-Nepal Water Resources Commission

2438. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings of the Indo-Nepal Water Resources Commission held so far and the decision taken at the last three meetings;

(b) whether any financial assistance has been sought from Japan for the implementation of the Kosi and Tipaimukh Dam Projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and